

Q&A Consistency Meeting Agenda for Plumbing, January 2017

1. Question: Is it acceptable to use a Vent Stack Odor eliminator?

Answer: No, nothing has been found to show these products are listed or manufactured to a standard. The carbon filters must be changed every 1 to 5 years. If they are not changed there is a potential to block air movement into the plumbing drainage system

2. Question: Could you put me in the right spot in the code book where it states that 18" of copper is required on a gas water heater? We have been questioned about PEX being tied directly to an electric heater, which we know is legal, just trying to locate the verbiage in the code book

Answer: a. It is not in the code. Almost all manufacturers require a minimum of 12 inches of clearance above the top of the water heater to combustibles. Copper extensions have always been used to meet this requirement. So many manufacturers have that requirement it is assumed it is a code requirement. On electric water heaters, we go by what the installation instructions require. Most have a zero clearance above the top of the heater and do not prohibit connecting PEX or CPVC directly to the tank, but there are a few we have found that does. It will go back to the installation instructions.

3. Question: Who looks at compressed air systems with in a building?

Answer: Compressed air systems are outside the scope of the NCPC and NCMC.